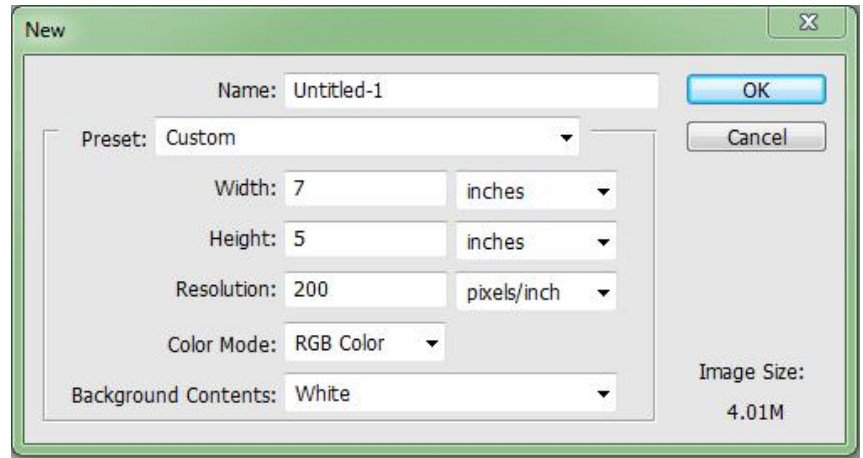


Adobe Photoshop: Working with Layers

Creating a new File

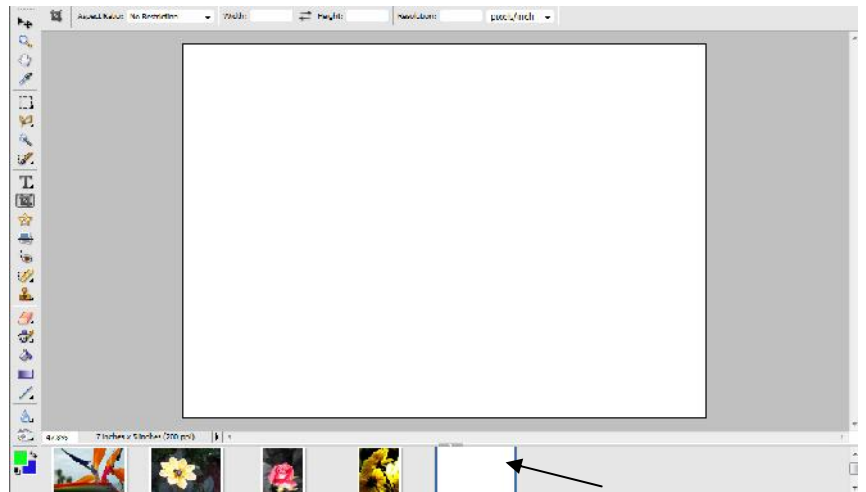
1. To create a new file, go to File, New, Blank File.
In the dialogue box, enter in the dimensions and format that you want your blank file to have.
2. For example, for the collage project, you can make the height 6 inches and the width 6 inches, or 5" by 7" or 7" by 5".
3. Set the resolution to 200 or higher.
4. Make sure the Mode is set at RGB color.
5. Press ok.



Creating New Layers

To add an entire photo:

1. Open up several photos that you wish to combine into one image. Go to file, open, and locate your photos. You may select as many photos as you would like at once and open them.
2. Click on the photo that you want to begin with.
3. To add the entire photo to the background, click over to the new file you created. (You will see all the files that you have open at the bottom of the screen). Click and drag the photo that you want to add to the new file. It should appear as a new layer.
4. You can change the size and location of the photo by clicking on the move tool at the top of the toolbar.

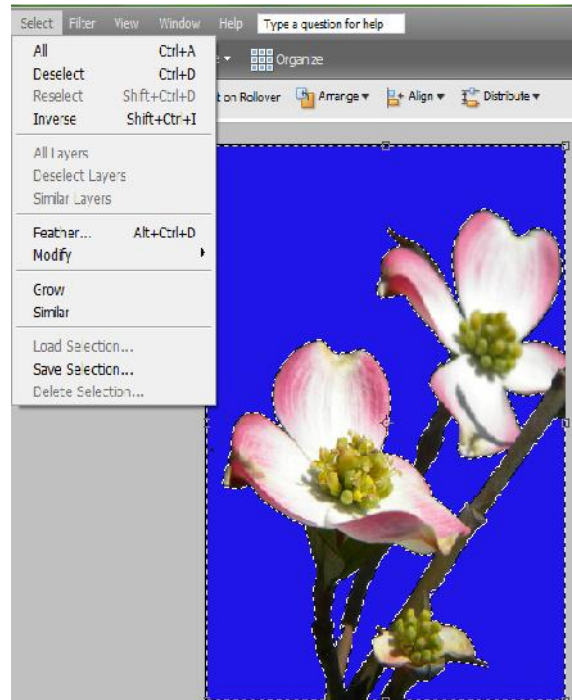


To add a portion of a photo:

Select on a photo that you want to cut out a part of the photo and add it as a new layer. You have 3 options for cutting out objects.

Magic Wand Tool: This tool works best when the background behind the object is close to a solid color.

1. Select the Magic Wand tool.
2. Click on the background. The background should be selected. If the entire background has not been selected like you wish, hold down the shift key and click in the areas that have not been selected.
3. Once the entire background has been selected, go to select inverse. This will change the selection area from your background to the object.
4. Go to edit, copy.
5. Click on your file that you want to add the object to.
6. Go to edit, paste.
7. Your image should be pasted as a new layer.
8. Use the move tool to change the placement and size of the layer.



Magnetic Lasso Tool: This tool works when the background is contrasting with the object that you want to select.

1. Select the magnetic tool.
2. Begin by clicking on the edge of the image that you wish to cut out.
3. Carefully trace the object with your cursor. It should easily detect the edges of the object.
4. Connect the first and last points by clicking down again.
5. Your object should be highlighted.
6. Go to edit, copy.
7. Click on your file that you want to add the object to.
8. Go to edit, paste.
9. Your image should be pasted as a new layer.
10. Use the move tool to change the placement and size of the layer.

Polygon Lasso Tool: This tool works regardless of the condition of the background, but it takes a little more patience to do.

1. Select on the polygon lasso tool.
2. Begin by clicking on the edge of the image that you wish to cut out.
3. Carefully trace around the image, click when the edge changes shape.
4. Continue this until the first and last points connect.
5. Your object should be highlighted.
6. Go to edit, copy.
7. Click on your file that you want to add the object to.
8. Go to edit, paste.
9. Your image should be pasted as a new layer.
10. Use the move tool to change the placement and size of the layer.

Manipulating the Layers

To change the order of the layers:

1. On the right hand side of the screen, you should see a dialogue box with your layers displayed.
2. If this isn't the case, go to Window, and select on Layers.
3. To change the order of the layers, simply click and drag the layer in the layer dialogue box.
4. To duplicate a layer, right click on the layer in the dialogue box and select duplicate layer.
5. To merge layers, select the layers you wish to merge by clicking and holding down the shift button. Right click on the layers, and select merge layers. This will flatten the layers into one layer.

